

CLAIMS

1. A communication device, comprising:
 - a wireless transceiver capable of operating with a plurality of affiliations;
 - 5 a memory storing data associated with the plurality of affiliations and time information associated with each of the plurality of affiliations, the time information governing what time each of the plurality of affiliations is to be an active affiliation;
 - means for determining a current time; and
 - a controller which compares the current time with the time information to
 - 10 determine which of the plurality of affiliations is to be active, and which directs the transceiver to operate in accordance with the data associated with the active affiliation.
2. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the means for determining a current time comprises means for decoding a transmitted time received on a control
- 15 channel.
3. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the means for determining a current time comprises a real time clock.
- 20 4. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the time information comprises time of day information and day information.
5. The communication device of claim 1, wherein two of the plurality of affiliations comprise affiliations with a single communication system using two NAMs.
- 25 6. The communication device of claim 1, wherein two of the plurality of affiliations comprise affiliations with two different communication systems.
7. The communication device of claim 1, wherein two of the plurality of affiliations
- 30 comprise affiliations with two telephone numbers.

8. A multi-mode wireless telephone device, comprising:
- a wireless transceiver capable of operating with at least two affiliations associated with at least two NAMs, the wireless transceiver operating to receive system information including time information transmitted over a control channel, the system information comprising at least time, day of week, month, and day of month;
- 5 a memory storing data associated with the plurality of affiliations and time information associated with each of the plurality of affiliations, the time information governing what time each of the plurality of affiliations is to be an active affiliation; and
- a controller which compares the current time with the time information to
- 10 determine which of the plurality of affiliations is to be active, and which directs the transceiver to operate in accordance with data associated with the active affiliation.

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9. A method of timed affiliation for a wireless two way communication device, comprising:

monitoring a Broadcast Control Channel time until the Broadcast Control Channel time matches a timed affiliation time;

- 5 deregistering from a current affiliation;
clearing affiliation information from memory;
setting up new registration parameters for a new affiliation;
transmitting a request for the new affiliation;
if a new affiliation registration is accepted, awaiting a next Broadcast Control
- 10 Channel time to match a timed affiliation time; and
if a new affiliation registration is not accepted:
re-transmitting a request for the new affiliation for up to N times; and
if the new affiliation registration is not accepted after N times, setting a
prior affiliation as the new affiliation and transmitting a registration request to reset the
- 15 affiliation to the prior affiliation.